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# THE PANTHER

The Official Student Newspaper of Prairie View A&M University

panther@pvamu.edu



What are you doing  
for Valentine's Day?

Page 4

Volume 81, Issue 17

## SPORTS

Basketball teams  
take H-Town  
Classic by storm.

Page 6

Feb. 11, 2004



Grammys bring out  
stellar stars.

Page 10

## Annual conference raises \$60,000

Donations will be used to offer scholarships to students

By Aaron Hamilton  
Panther Staff

The Annual Ministers Conference is an ecumenical setting where ministers from the state of Texas and beyond come together to raise money for scholarships. The theme for this year was "Worship, Fellowship, Stewardship, and Leadership: The Ship That Sails The Church."

This year marked the forty-sixth anniversary of the ministers conference, which is held the first Tuesday and Wednesday of February at Prairie View A&M University. More than 150 ministers attended the conference held in the Memorial Student Center Auditorium and Ballroom. This year's goal was to raise \$50,000. They exceeded their goal and raised more than \$60,000 in scholarships.

Every year there are six main conference speakers. The

See Conference page 12



Photo by Aaron Hamilton

Dr. Kenneth Carter, chairman for the 2004 Annual Ministers Conference, addresses the crowd during the 46th Annual Ministers Conference last Tuesday and Wednesday.

## The Panther wins at national convention

By Christina Johnson  
Editor in Chief

The Prairie View A&M University student newspaper, *The Panther*, received eight awards of distinction at the sixth annual national HBCU Newspaper Convention in Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 4-8. The awards are:

First runner-up for Best Music, Film, or CD Review,

First runner-up for

Best Arts and Entertainment Column,

Second runner-up for Best News Series,

Honorable Mention awards for Best HBCU Newspaper- Weekly, Best Sports Game Photography, Best Sports News Story, Best Entertainment Story, and Best Arts and Entertainment Story.

*The Panther* won the awards in a competition in which 24 colleges and univer-

See Awards page 12

## Fees to increase in coming school year

By Sole Iyamu  
Panther Staff

Tuition and fee increases have become part of academic life and the cost of higher education has now been shifted from the state to the student.

Twenty-five out of an estimated 7,500 Prairie View A&M University students attended the first fee increase hearing on Tuesday, Feb. 3.

By fall of next year, tuition that is now \$36 per semester credit hour will increase by ten dollars. Students will pay \$46. Other areas undergoing increases are library and computer access fees. Administration understands that any increase in fees will burden the student body, but feels that the increase will support

See Fees page 12



## •State•

## PV's Seven Day Forecast

Wed  
Feb. 11

Heavy Rain  
52°/37°

Thu  
Feb. 12

Cloudy  
51°/36°

Fri  
Feb. 13

Few Showers  
47°/36°

Sat  
Feb. 14

Few Showers  
59°/36°

Sun  
Feb. 15

Partly Cloudy  
63°/42°

Mon  
Feb. 16

Few Showers  
57°/45°

Tue  
Feb. 17

Few Showers  
53°/43°

Courtesy of www.weather.com

## •National•

## Teacher shot in upstate New York

EAST GREENBUSH, N.Y. (AP) — A teacher was shot in a high school in upstate New York Monday, and police were holding at least one student in custody, authorities said.

The shooting happened about 10:30 a.m. in a hallway at Columbia High School in Rensselaer County, east of Albany. The teacher was treated and released from a hospital.

Two men were taken into police custody. Superintendent Terrance Brewer identified one as a student and would not say who the other man was.

The gunman fired three rounds from a 12-gauge shotgun, hitting special-education teacher Michael Bennett. An assistant principal then stopped the student and held him until police arrived, Brewer said.

## Students send supplies to Iraqi students

MASON CITY, Iowa (AP) — A teacher from Clear Lake High School who is serving with the military in Iraq e-mailed a co-worker with an assignment for his students — to help students in Iraq.

Students from various Clear Lake schools have raised money and collected basic school supplies, such as pencils, paper and chalk, at the request of Frank Burns, a special education teacher serving with the 1133rd Transportation Co. of Mason City.

## •World•

## Nurse named greatest black Briton

LONDON (AP) — A nurse who comforted dying soldiers during the Crimean War topped the voting as the greatest black Briton, a British Web site said Monday.

The work of Mary Seacole (1805-1881) has long been overshadowed by the contribution of her contemporary Florence Nightingale.

But she led the poll by the black heritage Web site "Every Generation," designed to celebrate the contribution of black Britons. Some 100,000 responded to the online vote between Oct. 1 and Jan. 1.

"The popularity and success of the campaign highlights the fact that black history in Britain is intertwined with British history," said "Every Generation" founder Patrick Vernon.

## South Africa elections to be held in April

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — South Africa's third all-race election will be held on April 14, President Thabo Mbeki, who will be seeking a second term, announced Monday.

The presidential and legislative elections will take place ten years after Nelson Mandela became the country's first black president in April 1994 in an election which brought the African National Congress to power.

Mbeki, who succeeded Mandela in 1999, is expected to easily win a second term.

## "We are the champions"



2004.02.07

Photo by Otis Clayborne

The Panther staff and the Lincoln-Clarion newspaper staff from Lincoln University celebrate after winning awards at the 6th Annual HBCU Newspaper Convention in Montgomery, Ala.



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## The Panther

Prairie View A&M University's  
official student publication

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Submission Policy  
for Letters to the Editor

Anyone who reads The Panther can submit a letter to the editor by fax, e-mail, or postal service. All submissions are subject to editing and must include the author's name and telephone number.

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Spring 2004 Staff

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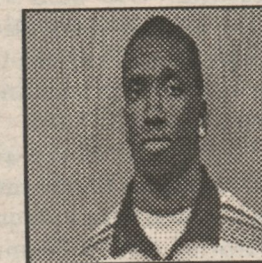
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The Panther office is open from  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

The importance of a mother-son relationship  
A son's personal testimony of love toward his mother

By Steven Kennedy

Panther Staff

A mother to a son is like wheels to a vehicle. Just like a car can't move or function without wheels, a son cannot function or go on without his mother. It's the strongest relationship known to man.

Your mother is the provider, doctor, guardian, and the most important person in your life. Everything about your mother is precious; never take it for granted!

From the way she provides home cooked meals when you're home from school, cleans up after you, or the way she's there for you when you need a shoulder to cry on, everything about your mother is precious. She's definitely an angel sent down from heaven to guide and protect you until her time is up.

It all started in the delivery room when she gave you life. From the moment you were born, you and your mother knew what each other felt and were able to communicate without words. She helped you through every phase of your life from your first steps, first day of school, prom night, and graduation day. She helped mold you into the person you would eventually become.

If God blesses you to have children, she will become a second mother to your children. The knowledge she gave to you as a little one, will be passed down to your children. To help them grow and become successful. Your mother is eternal. She will never stop loving you even after she has passed on to be with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Love between a son and mother is like no other. She is an angel sent to give you life and watch over you.

This selection is for everyone. Everyone should have a good relationship with his/her mother. She is a very spe-

cial human being. Don't take her for granted. You never know when God is going to call her name. Spend as much time as you can with your mother. This message might be a little rough, but it's real.

My mother Hattie E. Kennedy is battling cancer. My family has a long history of cancer. We have prayed, and prayed, and prayed! God works in mysterious ways, but we as His children have to understand He does everything for a reason. God doesn't put more on you than you can handle!

I'm just asking the family of Prairie View A&M University to keep the Kennedy and Williams families in your prayers. It's a very tough time for all of us. We would really appreciate it. I'm going to end this selection with a poem to my mother, Hattie E. Kennedy:

*It all started on December 17, 1982  
The day I experienced the beginning of my life through you.*

*I'm glad that God chose you to be my mother.*

*Because you are a mother like no other*

*To my father you have been the best wife a man could ever have.*

*And I will never forget the way your smile would light up a room when I made you laugh.*

*To my brother who has passed on, and my sister and I*

*You have definitely been an angel sent down from the heaven's sky*

*Although God knows that you have done a lot and feels that your work here is through*

*I can't even begin to imagine my life without you*

*We pray, and pray and never give up hope*

*Because I love you more than you will ever know*

*We ask Him everyday, and know that He will help you pull through*

*My life, my father's and sister's life have all been circled around you*

*And we just want you to know that WE LOVE YOU!*



## The Answers

Weekly Update for Freshmen

ATTEND PV'S BLACK  
HISTORY MONTH ACTIVITIES  
"LOOKING BACK  
AS WE MOVE FORWARD"

- You must have a grade of 'C' (OR 'S') or better in your developmental class (es) at mid-terms to be able to pre-register for summer or fall 2004.
- Check out the following URL: <http://calendars.pvamu.edu/> for information about our Quick TASP/THEA testing schedule or call 936/857-2747.

## UC THANKS MR. PETER WOOD FOR HIS SUPPORT OF ACCESS



February 11	Back to Basics Fashion Show Extravaganza
February 12	Financial Aid Awareness Week
February 17	UC Talent Show
March 4-6	Mid-term exams

VISIT THE TUTORING CENTER IN THE LIBRARY AND GET A HEAD START ON MID-TERMS!!

- Bldg # 36 conducted "Destination Village" a program discussing the transitioning to upperclassmen housing.
- The movie, "Road to Brown" was shown in the UC Theater!!
- Bldg #42 has started in-hall study groups!!

UC WILL HOST ITS SCHOLAR RECOGNITION DINNER ON FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>!!  
SELF EMPOWERMENT.....COMING IN MARCH TO UC!!

## Black History Month Events:

Wed., Feb. 11

Willie "Mukasa" Ricks to speak on "Black Power" 2:00 p.m. - John B. Coleman Library

Back to Basics Fashion Show Extravaganza 7:00 p.m. - MSC Auditorium

Thur., Feb. 12

Barry Gaither, M.F.A., to speak on "African American Art". 2:00 p.m. - John B. Coleman Library Special Events Room.

Tues., Feb. 17

Black History Talent Explosion 7:00 p.m. - Hobart Taylor Auditorium





## Gilpin players still strong after 75 years

By Ramayne Anderson  
Special to The Panther

This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Charles Gilpin Players. After 75 years The Gilpin Players are still going strong, displaying theatre excellence. The Gilpins started the year off with performances at Texas Educational Theatrical Association (T.E.T.A.) Jan. 22-23. Standing ovations were given each night for the award winning play *A Lesson before Dying* by Romulus Linney and based on the novel by Earnest J. Gaines. A Salute to Broadway #1 featured songs and dances from Eubie, Bubblin' Brown Sugar, Sophisticated Ladies, and One Mo' Time. A Salute to Broadway #2 featured songs and dances from The Wiz, Dreamgirls, West Side Story, and Cats.

Performances of *A Lesson before Dying* are planned for the month of Feb. at high schools in the Houston area of. The first performance of the play will be held at Westfield Senior High School, Thursday, Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. The performance will take place in the Performance Art Center of the high school at 1960 and Ella Blvd. There will also be a major production of one of the popular shows presented on the campus during the last 20 years The Cotton Club Musical Revue. The play will be performed at the Anne Campbell Little Theatre the last week in Feb. with additional performances in Houston and Navasota, Texas.

The Charles Gilpin Players were named after the great black actor Charles Gilpin, who made the role of Othello and Emperor Jones famous during the earlier days of theatre in this country as well as in Europe. Founded in 1929 by Earl Sasser, the Gilpin Players are the oldest performing minority theatrical company in the state of Texas. The activities are being planned for the spring, summer and fall with former Gilpins returning to the campus to be a part of the celebration. There are many events planned for the year 2004 so stay on the look out for upcoming shows!

## Dean Lewter is honored after 10 years on "The Hill"

By Aaron Hamilton  
Panther Staff

Dean Charles Hannon Lewter IV is a Manhattan, NY native. He became the third dean of the Johnson-Phillip All-Faiths Chapel on Feb. 1, 1994, which was the first day



Photo By Aaron Hamilton

Dean Lewter stands next to a portrait of himself at the Ministers Conference. The picture will now be displayed in the All-Faiths Chapel.

of the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Minister's Conference. Lewter came to Texas to minister on a state campus, something he saw as

a challenge. He always worked at a private institution.

"The Morehouse Man" who is affectionately referred to as "Dean" was the Assistant Registrar at the Interdenominational

Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia prior to coming to Prairie View A & M. He is a leader and a prime example of what a strong, black man should be. He said one thing he learned in his ten years at PVAMU is, "ministry is never the same on a college campus."

In addition, Dean says his congregation changes every year.

One thing he says he learned from students is, "to

be humble and be faithful to His calling." He said the students are his motivation and inspiration. They are the reason that he has remained here for ten years.

Recently, at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Minister's Conference, he was honored with a plaque, a portfolio, and a framed picture of himself. The picture was in commemoration of his ten years at the university. It will be displayed in the foyer of the Johnson-Phillip All-Faiths Chapel.

Dean Lewter is not only dean of the chapel, he is

most of all a friend, and a counselor. Lewter always says, "You can be a Christian and still have fun." His advice to students is "Keep God first in everything you do and treat others like you want to be treated—that is with respect."

Lewter's motto is: "If I can help someone along the way, then my living will not be in vain."

Congratulations Dean Lewter in your accomplishments and may God bless you and keep you in our prayers.

## ACM urges all majors to come out and compete

Special to The Panther

The Department of Computer Science held an ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) programming contest Nov. 14 to Nov. 21.

The contest was aimed to encourage students to solve challenging problems in computer science and prepare them to participate in regional and national programming contests. Four groups, eight students total, participated. They are:  
Group 1: Marques White, Justin Voros, and KT McCoy  
Group 2: Kobi Inkumsah, Ira Gordon IV, and Rami Torbay  
Group 3: Sean Carson

Group 4: William Dorsey

The programming contest has four challenging programming problems. Participants took the problems home and had one week to solve them. Group 1 solved all problems correctly and won first prize. Group 2 solved one problem correctly and won the second prize. The other two groups dropped out.

We encourage people from all majors who are interested in programming to participate. The next programming contest will be a one-day on-site event.

## Wright kicks off Black History month celebration

By Cory Donley  
Panther Staff

An address from president Dr. George Carlton Wright about why black history month should be kept sacred marked the official kick off to black history month at Prairie View A&M University.

On Thursday, Feb. 5 at 9:30 a.m. Wright addressed a full MSC auditorium of students faculty, administrators, department chairs and committee members on the idea of keeping black history month active on campus.

Being that Wright is a history professor, his speech was full of historical references in order to give credit for the rights that we currently enjoy. Wright divided his speech into two different themes: is black history month necessary and the significance the John Brown discussion had on black history.

Wright began to convey what significance black history month should have on our lives. Wright explained that for over eighty years black history month has been celebrated all over the country.

However, Wright does not want black history month to simply be a month when African-Americans have programs and church services. "I feel that the significance of black history is becoming lost," Wright said as he shared a scripture that he felt related to the concept of black history month, Isaiah 51:1.

Wright referenced the scripture in order to get across the idea of "looking unto your past, and understanding your past." He wanted all young adults and students to understand that black history month should be remembered for the inhumane treatment of blacks

*"We, as black people, can only be limited by our lack of vision."*

-Dr. George C. Wright  
PVAMU President

and the trouble in race relations between blacks and whites.

The whole idea of black history month began with programs organized by historians to educate whites and inform blacks of the contributions blacks made in the United States. During black

history month blacks were educated about explorers, scientists, lawyers, and other professionals who made a difference in America. The president also explained the importance of several white men who aided blacks and black history month.

One important portion of his speech came with the discussion of desegregation of public schools. The Dred Scott case of 1857 was discussed along with Homer A. Plessey who was a fair skinned black man who sat in the white section of a train which caused commotion within the government when he refused to give up his seat in 1892.

Wright discussed the year 1929 when the NAACP was offered \$100,000 from an anonymous supporter to come up with the blueprint for desegregation in public schools.

Wright also explained the historical events that led to the admittance of blacks into universities and the desegregation of public schools.

Wright concluded his address with three ideas: black history month is important because it keeps the memories that blacks had to endure for the freedoms that we currently enjoy.

Black history month is also important for whites in order to remind them of the commitments and contributions blacks have made for black rights.

Finally black history month should be a constant challenge for blacks to do their best. He ended his address with a quote for everyone to take with them and apply to their lives: "We, as black people, can only be limited by our lack of vision."



The Gary Gates Family

My family and I marched with you on Jan. 15th, and I'll be there for you in the Texas Legislature. - Gary Gates

# GARY GATES

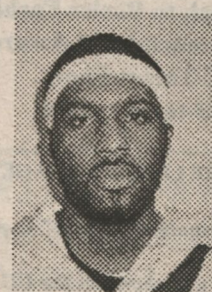
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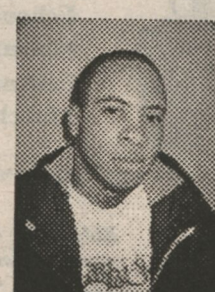
## PURPLE & GOLD POLL

What are you doing for Valentine's Day?



Joseph F. Carr II  
Junior/Radio/TV

"Using my budget to make romantic things happen for my Valentine."



Gerald Martin  
Junior/Bus Management

"Going home to spend some time with my mother for her birthday."



Elan Wilson  
Senior/Mathematics

"A special friend of mine is taking me out to dinner and giving me a surprise."



Andrea Stancil  
Senior/Psychology

"My special someone is taking me out to the Aquarium."

Photos By Andrea Starr



## Basketball teams take H-town classic by storm

By Steven M. Kennedy  
Panther Staff

Both of Prairie View A&M University's basketball squads completed a sweep against the archrival Texas Southern Tigers last Saturday the Toyota Center in Houston.

In what is most likely the most intense game on the Panthers' basketball schedule that attracts an average of 6,000 or more spectators each year, Prairie View left the Toyota Center last Saturday night with a boost of confidence, as both men's and woman's teams came out with a win.

The men's team anchored by head coach Jerome Francis Jr., came into the contest on a 3-game losing streak, dating back to the Jan 26 game against the Mississippi Valley State Delta Devils in which they were defeated (94-63) in the Baby Dome.

The Panthers found themselves down 37-31 at halftime against Texas Southern, but with a couple of changes being made by Coach Francis, and the rest of the coaching staff in the locker room the Panthers outscored the Tigers 41-31 in the second half to edge Texas Southern 72-68 for the win.

Their leading scorer in the game against conference

leader Mississippi Valley State back on Jan 26 was senior guard Kevin Cooper who had 15 points in the contest.

Cooper proved once again he could step up to the challenge by dropping 26 points on Texas Southern, and helping the Panthers complete a season sweep against their archrival.

Cooper currently ranks fifth in the scoring ranks

averaging (16.2ppg) in the Southwestern Athletic Conference.

Although Cooper stood out the most in the stat column, it was a total team effort in how the Panthers defeated Texas Southern for the second time this season.

Other Prairie View A&M players who turned in great performances were Josh Thompson who grabbed eight

rebounds, point guard Jared Ellison (eight assists), and forward Tyrone Nelson who came up big on the defensive end with five steals.

Leaders for Texas Southern were Allen Lovett who had 22 points, Larry Evans 15 points, and Sean Walker who finished with 11 points.

Prairie View also shot 73 percent from the free-throw

line, to Texas Southern's 65 percent. With the win, the Panthers improved to (4-6) in the win-loss column in the SWAC, but still have a lot of work to do to successfully defend their Southwestern Athletic Conference Title.

Although the Panthers' record still has room for improvement, the wins for both the men's and women's team against Texas Southern are a major positive in trying to make a mid-season turnaround.

The women's stats for the Texas Southern game were not available at press time.

The men's next upcoming games will both be home games with the first game on Feb14 against the Jackson State Tigers, followed by a game against the Grambling State Tigers on Monday Feb16 in the Baby Dome.

The women's games begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by the men's games at 7:30 p.m.



Photo by Gitsonga M' Mbijewe

A Panther goes for layup during the H-town classic.



Photo by Gitsonga M' Mbijewe

A Lady Panther player takes a shot during the H-town classic.

## Track team gets long overdue ring ceremony

By Rashad Morgan  
Panther Staff

Last week there was a ring ceremony held for Prairie View A&M University track teams that won the SWAC Championships of 1999 and 2000. The rings have been long overdue but were well deserved. In 1999 the track team took the outdoor championships and in 2000 a very talented team brought home both the indoor and outdoor championships.

Thirty-nine rings were given, including rings for coaches. Members of the team include: Lewis Edmonson and Lewis Turner, who now run on the professional circuit, Chris Clay, who is still a team member at the university and Ronald Nelson, who was an

high jumper and long jumper, current Head Coach Clifton Gilliard and the always remembered Coach Wright. "We really can't forget about Coach Wright, his inspiration and encouragement are really being missed," said Gilliard.

Gilliard has proven himself worthy of the head coaching position not only on track but off track as well.

"Many of the other members of the team have graduated or are completing their degrees this year" Gilliard said while stressing that besides performing well in track & field his players achieve academically and become very productive people in society. He mentioned former track member Larry Hamilton, excellent hurdler,

David Arterberry and distance runner Demetrius Peters who are all currently in graduate school.

"This upcoming track season will be one of rebuilding," Gilliard said. Many of the players aren't eligible and the team is still feeling the hurt from the tragic catastrophe in 2000, when key members passed away in a disastrous van accident. Given the circumstances, the team still plans to be one of the top competitors in the SWAC conference.

Currently there are 36 members on the men's track team who are upperclassmen, including five members of the 1999-2000 championship team. There are also All-SWAC hopefuls including that range from 400-meter runners

Henry Harris and Frank Perkins, sprinter Freddie Strange, 800-meter runner and high jumper Simon Mann, and high jumper Broderick Lewis. Even returning members Sean Celestine, Patrick Robinson, and Marcus Howard are expected to do well this year. Of the recruited freshmen, King, McCowin, Tucker, and Wilson are expected to have an outstanding breakout season.

Freshmen Lee, Williams, and Benson should do great and all eyes are on the very versatile Nikki Cameron who could participate in anything from the 100-800 meters. Cameron, who is a freshman, is a likely candidate for the award of Most Outstanding Runner, which will be given at the conference

meet. Even though the season isn't over coach Washington is still looking to next year's recruiting class which will add to the talent and give the women's team more depth. "Unlike the other women's sports, track at PVAMU has tended to declined because the players tend to go to the bigger schools," said Washington.

Both the men's and women's teams are expecting to finish in the top five in the SWAC-conference. Coaches Gilliard and Washington had only one word to say to describe this season; "rebuilding."

There will be an additional ring ceremony held at the Prairie View relays for the families of the victims who were members of the 1999 and 2000 championship teams.

## Tennis teams fall short in Bayou City Quad tourney

By Rodney Palmer

Panther Staff

To some students here at Prairie View the sport of tennis might be a little foreign, but if you think the game is foreign you should check out this year's 2003-2004 men's and women's tennis teams. Under the leadership of head coach John Cochran, this year's squad consists of 17 players from eight different countries, who have demonstrated academic excellence.

This year's men's team is composed of 10 strong recruits including Captain Blessing Bvumzawabaya, a junior from Mutare, Zimbabwe, and Co-Captain J.R. Garcia, a junior from San Antonio. "The key for us this year will be our horses," Cochran said "We have better players and they know what to do."

"Yeah, we plan to make a move, we have made a 180 degree turn, we have improved and have more talent," stated Garcia.

They are expected to have a good season as they will be tested early on against top ranked opponents such as SMU and BYU who have won the Division II national title the past two years "Early on we are going to see what we're made of," stated Coach Cochran.

The women's squad is a young one with four new faces. Michelle Scurry, a freshman from St. Louis, Missouri, played in national tournaments prior to coming to Prairie View and has done well.

Scurry said, "Being consistent is the key. We are going to have a lot to prove because we are young and new." Marika Dawkins, a top recruit from Jamaica, is also confident that the women will do well in competition.

Prairie View A&M got a taste of this year's SWAC action in the annual Bayou City Quad last weekend at Prairie View. The tournament included Prairie View, Grambling, Texas

Southern, and Dillard, and was a preview of who might be in the SWAC Championships to be held April 29 at the Westside Tennis Club in Houston.

"Southern has won the SWAC two years straight but this year it looks pretty even," said Cochran. The men got off to a fast start quickly defeating Dillard 4-0. Key doubles victories came from

them but nevertheless they played hard. "We need more practice at what we need to accomplish, we tried but we need to be more prepared," said senior player Laina Magaya.

The final day was an intense one as it came down to the final matches for the men against Texas Southern. TSU prevailed, but Prairie View was led by the valiant effort of

Xavier Godoy who won his singles match (6-1) (6-2), and along with teammate David Herrera won the only doubles match.

The women had a better day as they started off with a tiebreaker match for warm-ups, which turned out to be the main key.

"We needed to work on our doubles, our teamwork, talking, and communicating,"

said Cochran. They did just that as the dynamic duo of Michelle Scurry and Marika Dawkins won their doubles match-up and overpowered both of their singles matches, Scurry winning (6-3) (6-3), and Dawkins dominating (6-0) (6-2).

"The men would have done a lot better had Bvumzawabaya been at full throttle, but everyone played against TSU the way they should have played the whole tournament," said coach Cochran.

Although they lost to two SWAC teams that will count as conference play, Cochran and the tennis team could use this stumbling block as a stepping stone.

Cochran stated, "Overall I'm disappointed but not upset with the way we played. We should do better, we're not doing badly; it's just hard accepting defeat."

The team will travel to New Orleans next weekend to compete in the Mardi Gras Classic.



Bvumzawabaya and teammate Kudzai Chiridza (8-6), and tandem David Herrera and Xavier Godoy (8-6). "We struggled at first, but we had to adjust and get our shots going," said Chiridza. After they were swept in singles, Dillard was officially in the graveyard. The women put in a great effort but lost due to a slow start.

"Girls started slow, they were playing catch up and it was hard for them to get into rhythm," stated Cochran. Junior Alicia Jennings, however, won her singles match (6-1) (6-2).

The second half of the day was a challenge for both the men and the women as they took on Grambling. Doubles matches wins included Ron Howard McNeil and Amin Memon's victory (8-6), but let up a bit and were overtaken in the singles matches, losing to GU 3-4.

Bvumzawabaya sustained a right foot injury that turned out to be the turning point of the match. The effort was not enough as the women failed to beat a more experienced Grambling squad. It was a learning experience for



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING RESIDENTS !!!

Super Bowl Party Prize Winners:

Tony Tyrell Anderson- DVD Player

Danielle Bush- Bad Boys I&II

Cleveland Sampleton- Out of Time

Simon Mann- American Wedding

Tanisha Train- Scarface

Ronda Jackson- Punk'd the Complete Series

### UPCOMING PROGRAMMING EVENTS

- Weekly - Movie Night (every Wednesday) in Phase II Clubhouse from 7pm-9pm
- Every Tues & Thurs - Tutoring (English & Math) Phase I Clubhouse 6pm-9pm
- Feb. 10 - Sexual Assault Seminar in Phase II Clubhouse 6pm-8pm
- Feb. 12 - Single-Out Dating Game in A.I. Auditorium 7pm-9pm
- Feb. 17 - Alcohol Awareness Seminar in Phase III Clubhouse 7pm-9pm
- Feb. 19 - Resident Birthday Celebration in Phase II Clubhouse from 6pm-8pm
- Feb. 24-26 - Black History Celebration in Johnson Phillip All Faith Chapel from 7pm-10pm

UV Barber shop is open Tuesday-Friday 10:00 am-10:00pm and Saturday 12:00 pm-5:00 pm. (Monday only by appointment). If you have question call "The Shop" at ext. 4029.

### IMPORTANT !!!

#### LEASING/ACCOUNTING

- 2004-2005 Housing Application will be available Feb. 16.
- Rent is due the 1st of each month. There will be a \$25.00 late fee added if payment is submitted after the 5th and a \$75.00 late fee added after the 15th.
- Utility bills are now dual Payments are now accepted at our Phase I Clubhouse from 8am-5pm.



## This week in black history

In 1964, after 12 days of debate and voting on 125 amendments, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by a vote of 290-130. The bill prohibited any state or local government or public facility from denying access to anyone because of race or ethnic origin. It further gave the U.S. Attorney General the power to bring school desegregation law suits. It forbade labor organizations or interstate commercial companies from discriminating against workers due to race or ethnic origins.

Courtesy of BlackFacts.com

## Black History Moment

presented by

Dept. of Student Activities & Leadership

**Carl Brashear**  
Master Diver

Carl Brashear, a son of Kentucky sharecropper, is the first African-American graduate of the Navy Dive School. Joining the Navy in 1948 at the age of 17, his story was depicted in the 2000 movie, "Men of Honor" with Cuba Gooding, Jr. starring Brashear. In 1966, he lost half of his left leg while recovering a nuclear warhead in the Mediterranean Sea. With a permanent prosthetic limb, Brashear proved to his Navy superiors he could still dive and remain active. Brashear, who resides in Virginia Beach, Va., is one of only seven enlisted men ever enshrined in the naval archives.

USAA Magazine, Winter 2004

# Health Hints

## Histrionic personality disorder

### Definition

Histrionic personality disorder involves a pattern of excessive emotional expression and attention-seeking, including an excessive need for approval and inappropriate seductiveness, that usually begins in early adulthood.

### Causes, incidence, and risk factors

The cause of this disorder is unknown, but childhood events and genetics may both be involved. It occurs more frequently in women than in men.

### Symptoms

- \*Constant seeking of reassurance or approval
- \*Excessive dramatics with exaggerated displays of emotions
- \*Excessive sensitivity to criticism or disapproval
- \*Inappropriately seductive appearance or behavior
- \*Excessive concern with physical appearance
- \*A need to be the center of attention
- \*Low tolerance for frustration or delayed gratification
- \*Rapidly shifting emotional states that may appear shallow to others
- \*Opinions are easily influenced by other people, but difficult to back up with details
- \*Tendency to believe that relationships are more intimate than they actually are

### Signs and tests

The person's appearance, behavior, and history, and a psychological evaluation are usually sufficient to establish the diagnosis. There is no test to confirm this diagnosis.

### Treatment

Treatment is often prompted by depression associated with dissolved romantic relationships. Medication does little to affect this personality disorder, but may be helpful with symptoms such as depression.

Provided by www.yahoo.com/health

## Rally reminds students of why they are here

By Albert Hughes  
Panther Staff

Schoolbooks, dressing for success and doing what you know is the right thing to do were some of the topics discussed at Monday's Back to Basics Kickoff Rally. The rally was held in the auditorium of the Memorial Student Center and was brought in by our very own Prairie View A&M University Marching Storm. The band drew a nice crowd in front of the new building and caused many of those students to attend the rally. The voice of Prairie View's band, Charles Porter, was the master of ceremonies. Other speakers included Professor of Art Rev. Clarence Tally and Dr. Cherry Goodwin from Texas Southern University.

Goodwin stressed that students should work hard, believe in themselves and stay focused while sticking to their basic reasons for attending this institution. She wanted students to know the importance of dressing, how you want to be treated, and looking good in the classroom. The distinguished associate professor of education at TSU also felt that change starts with the students and if students can't get it done then no one can.

"We all know the difference between what is right and wrong, the problem is that we choose not to do what's right." Those were words spoken by Rev. Talley who chose to keep it real with the students and faculty. He touched on issues such as cheating in the classroom, sex, drugs and alcohol. He also stated that not only do students need to get back to basics but professors and deans do too.

During the rally door prizes were given away and those in attendance received Mardi Gras beads. Pre-Med major Truc Nguyen who attended the rally said he was disappointed in the student turn-out and as a student feels that we should really get back to the basics.

The Back to Basics program was created to encourage students to get back to the basic reasons for going to college. Themes for the program are Respect for Self & Others, Possessing Positive Personal Self-Image & Self-Esteem and Modeling Behaviors that reflect the "PV Man" and "PV Woman."

The coordinators of the events would like to see students demonstrate intellectual sophistication, acceptable value systems, a keen awareness and an appreciation for integrity and morals. They would also like to assist students in making responsible choices and exhibiting pride and respect for self, others, the community, and university. Committee members included

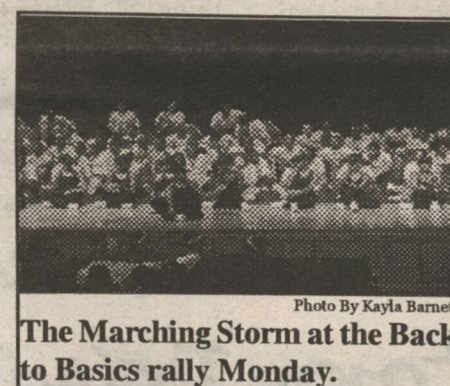


Photo By Kayla Barnett  
The Marching Storm at the Back to Basics rally Monday.

Abrams said he "wanted students to become more active in defining how Prairie View students are viewed after graduation." He hopes that students will start to take a sense of pride in the university as well as themselves.

The Back to Basics program picks up again with a free Fashion Show Extravaganza Wednesday, Feb. 11, at 7 p.m. in the MSC auditorium.

## Debate Team finishes third in state

Special to The Panther

Texas Tech is the overall champion of Texas for speech and debate; Texas State University took second place and Prairie View A&M University finished third.

The event was hosted by Tarrant County College Northeast in Ft. Worth, Texas from Feb. 6 through 8. Nineteen Texas colleges and universities participated. PVAMU participated in parliamentary debate, extemporaneous speaking and impromptu speaking—all thinking-on-your-feet events. Lakeisha Buckner won one of two awards for top novice debater, even though she and partner/co-captain Mike Hattix competed in the varsity division. Tiffany Turner and partner Kywana Bailey won four of six preliminary rounds, being PVAMU best debate team for the tournament. The team of Anika Cathey and Crystal

Chatmon rounded out the three debate teams that parliamentary team is aiming at the National Parliamentary

Debate Tournament in Los Angeles, Calif. in April and they are certainly qualified to compete with the best. Program director Ozzie Banicki says, "The team clearly demonstrates that Prairie View is

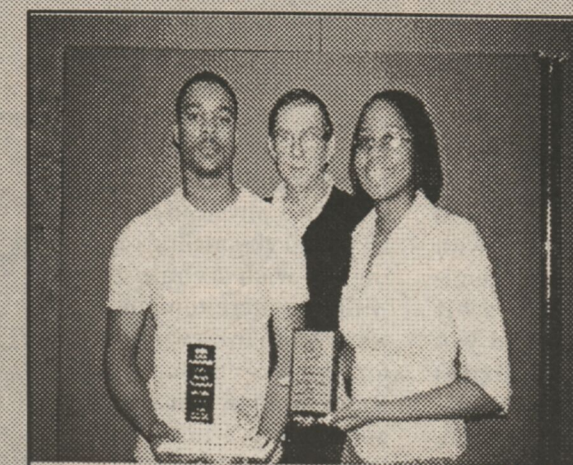


Photo Courtesy of the Debate Team  
From l-r Mike Hattix, Ozzie Banicki, and Lakeisha Buckner

represented PVAMU. The debaters competed in the extemporaneous and impromptu individual events, and accumulated enough points in all events to be crowned the third best overall team in the tournament. The

among the best thinkers and communicators in the State of Texas." Students interested in debate should visit the Communications Department located in Hilliard Hall.

The Ant Farm  
presents...



## Valentines With Late Nite

"An elegant evening with candlelight dinner and live entertainment"

Waller County Community Center  
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February 12, 2004

\$7 singles, \$10 couples

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# Grammys bring out stellar stars

By Kristina Rogers  
Panther Staff

The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Grammy Awards took place in Los Angeles, Sunday Feb. 8. Surprisingly, the artist who is no longer "formerly known" as Prince and Beyonce began the show with a performance of the legendary male artist's '80s hit "Purple Rain" that had you doing one of the following: a) running to the nearest television to catch them in action, b) yelling either at somebody in the house or on the phone demanding they flip to it, or c) sitting back taking it all in. Their performance ended with a standing ovation. In case you were wondering how long ago "Purple Rain" first hit the scene; 2003 was its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. For the first time in a long time Christina Aguilera decided to be fully clothed for her performance of "Beautiful." She was on her knees, surrounded by smoke and accompanied by a symphony.

Next up, White Stripes performed. Martina McBride was the fourth to perform. Patti La Belle mentioned Janet Jackson's absence before introducing Luther Vandross. Luther couldn't be in attendance physically, but he joined via satellite saying, "I wish I could be with you there tonight. I want to thank everyone for your love and support. Remember when I say good bye it's never for long because I believe in the power of love."

In a tribute to the soulful star, Alicia Keys belted out a soul stirring version of his "A House is not a Home."

Celine Dione followed with what would have been a very impacting performance of Luther's "Dance With My Father" had there not been technical difficulties with microphones and earpieces. Aside from the "rehearsed" performances, 50

Cent had a little "unrehearsed" performance. He ran across the stage as if he had won the award for Best



Photo courtesy of Eonline.com

Beyonce, snagging five grammys, tied the record for awards won by a female artist in one night.

New Artist, when in fact he didn't—Evanescence did.

Sting and Reggae superstar Sean Paul hit the

stage with a remix of the familiar song "Roxanne." Justly Justin wasn't exactly jubilant during his "edited" performance of the usually very sexual "Senorita."

The Beatles weren't forgotten. Each of them received the President's award; the wives of the deceased accepted them in their honor. The two who are still living weren't present to receive theirs; therefore, they did so via satellite.

Spreading the word that violence isn't the answer, the Black Eyed Peas graced the stage with their "Where is the Love."

Just when you thought it couldn't get any better, Beyonce' did her thing once more. In a gorgeous powder blue assemblage and what appeared to be a diamond/rhinestone top, she captivated all with an amazing performance of "Dangerously in Love."

Earth, Wind, and Fire made everyone's star shine, then they showed us the way they move with OutKast's Big Boi and Sleepy Brown.

The Foo Fighters performed next. After Warren Zevon's son accepted his father's award for Best Rock Performance By A Duo Or Group With Vocal, he paid tribute to his father by participating in a performance of the late Warren Zevon's song "Disorder in the House." Andre 3000's appearing in all green, in what is said to be the year 2999, was the last performance, with his "Hey Ya." The show ended with OutKast's winning Album of the Year. "All thanks to the most high...music is rockin' like never before," Big Boi's said. However Andre 3000 wanted to let everyone who thought they were true OutKast fans know something. "This [is] to all that think Stankonia was our first album. It was not our first album, do the history. Stank you, stank you, stank you."

## Today in Black History(1940)

### Singer Roberta Flack born

Born in Asheville, North Carolina, into a musical family, Flack graduated from Howard University with a BA in music. She was discovered singing and playing jazz in a Washington, D.C. nightclub by pianist Les McCann, who recommended her talents to Atlantic Records. Two classy albums, *First Take* and *Chapter Two*, garnered considerable acclaim for their skillful, often introspective, content before Flack achieved huge success with a poignant version of folk-singer Ewan MacColl's ballad, 'First Time Ever I Saw Your Face.' Roberta Flack remains a crafted, if precisionist, performer.

## "I Thought You Knew" Black History Trivia

Sponsored by The Student Government Association

1. When was the Republican political party formed and who were its first members?
2. When and why was the Thirteenth Amendment passed?
3. Who was the first black born and where?
4. Who was the first black astronaut to pilot a space shuttle?
5. Who is responsible for the "written" black history?

Hurry!!! Be the first person to email the answer to [abibbs@pvamu.edu](mailto:abibbs@pvamu.edu) and win a \$50 dollar gift to the store of your choice. Thanks for helping make history with SGA.

8 students + 1 roof = much drama

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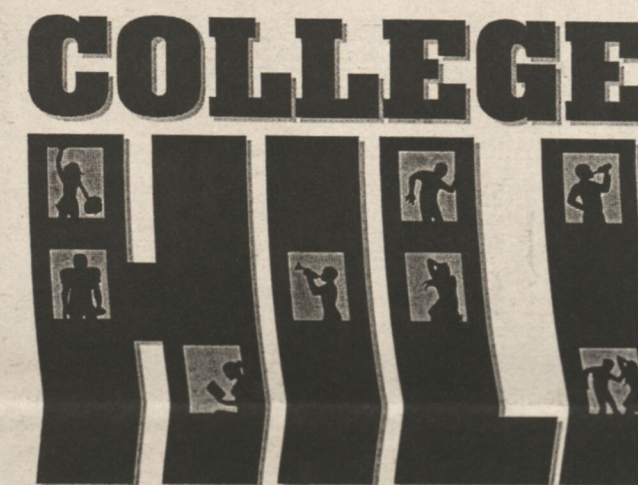
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### College Hill \$25,000 Scholarship Sweepstakes

Watch *College Hill* every Wednesday at 9pm et/pt starting January 28, to get the entry password, then log onto [www.bet.com/collegehill](http://www.bet.com/collegehill) to enter and you could be the lucky winner of a \$2004 scholarship. One winner per week for 13 weeks.\*

No purchase or payment necessary to enter or to win. All federal, state, local and municipal laws and regulations apply. Void where prohibited. Must be 18 years or older. \*Weeks may not be consecutive.



## The Panther's WORD OF THE WEEK SHENANIGAN

**Pronunciation:** She•nan•i•gan

**Function:** noun

**Synonyms:** funny act, joke, trick, antic, wise-crack, gag

**Definition:** 1) devious trick used especially for an underhanded purpose. 2) tricky or questionable practices or conduct-usually used in plural. 3) playful or mischievous act; a prank

**EXAMPLE:** "Finish your paperwork early, so that financial aid can't pull any shenanigans."

1. Who was the girl in Phase III wearing the Superman costume?
2. Is Splash going to be the new Kappa Beach Party?
3. What happened to the color changing hair clique?
4. Shouldn't the MSC get an Atkins friendly diet line?
5. How many "Kinda's" do you know?
6. Who's going to the MSC for Valentine's Day?
7. Who pledged Sigma as a back-up plan?
8. Who can't wait to see if it will be a new day for the Deltas?
9. Who's tired of seeing off-blue line jackets?
10. How did Σ Timberlake get his name, Cry me a River?
11. What happened to the one Iota?
12. Who is actually looking forward to SpringFest?
13. Which couple should be banned from the library?
14. If you were a parent, would you let your child attend an HBCU after watching College Hill?
15. Who's tired of circling MSC for a parking space?
16. Did you think it was rude or funny when 50 Cent crashed the stage at the Grammys?
17. What will we miss more: Sex in the City or Soul Food?
18. Does anyone know what happened to Prime Time?
19. Is BSM going to have a line?
20. What do you think?

This is for entertainment only. The questions submitted are not the views of The Panther. Want to tell us what you think? Please bring your comments and questions to Rm. 219 MSC or e-mail [panther@pvamu.edu](mailto:panther@pvamu.edu). Questions are printed at the discretion of The Panther



**Conference** from page 1

speakers this year were:

-Dr. John Adolph-Antioch Missionary Baptist Church (Beaumont, Texas),

-Rev. Reginald T. Jackson-St. Matthew A.M.E. Church (Orange, New Jersey),

-Dr. Love Henry Whelchel, Jr.-Professor of Religion (Atlanta, Georgia),

-Bishop Othal Hawthorne Lakey-Sixth Episcopal District C.M.E. Church (Atlanta, Georgia),

-Rev. William T. Glynn-Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church (Ft. Worth, Texas),

- and Rev. Willie James Campbell-Church of God in Christ (Chicago, Illinois).

In addition, the conference marked a special anniversary for a person dear to Prairie View A&M University, Charles H. Lewter IV, dean of the Johnson-Phillip All-Faiths Chapel.

On Feb. 1, Lewter celebrated his tenth year as the third dean of the chapel. Another special honoree was Ms. M. Marie Lewis-Lenton, who celebrated her seventeenth year as the secretary of the Johnson-Phillip All-Faiths Chapel.

The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Ministers Conference came to a close on Wednesday but before the closing, the chairman of the conference named a successor.

The 2004 Conference Chairman was Rev. Dr. Kenneth W. Carter, who named Rev. Lloyd Crosby the 2005 chairman for next year's conference. Crosby is the pastor of Mt. Corinth Missionary Baptist Church in Hempstead.

**Fees** from page 1

computing and information technology across campus. Lack of government funding and the reduction of public institution funds to \$345 million are some reasons for the necessary fee increase.

Other reasons, according to vice president of university operations, Dr. Larry Raab, are the construction of various new buildings. Some new buildings and renovations to the university include three new parking lots, agricultural and food science building, child and family studies center, classroom and lab equipment, the College of Nursing building in downtown Houston, architecture building, electrical engineering building and the juvenile justice department.

Raab said there would no longer be a laundry and student health fee. Despite positive outcomes mentioned by Raab, some students feel financial struggle will heavily outweigh all fee increase advantages.

Freshman nursing major Dontrice Warren said, "It's already a strain trying to pay for tuition, books, housing, etc. What are they trying to do, make us drop out?"

Sophomore engineering major Monique McDonald

feels a fee increase is just what PVAMU needs. "We all complain that Prairie View lacks in so many things. Well, this is the chance for us to improve."

President George Carlton Wright sent out a memorandum to the entire university last semester, concerning the increase in fees. The memorandum said that if the increases in tuition and fees weren't necessary and/or avoidable, he would not be recommending them.

**Awards** from page 1

sities participated.

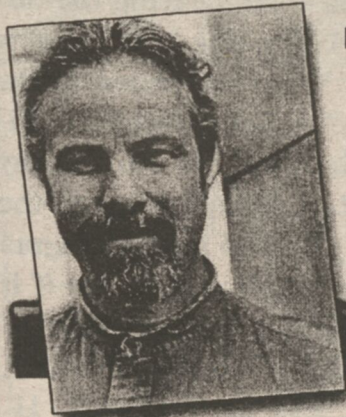
The HBCU Newspaper Convention and Job Fair started eight years ago as an idea of the editor-in-chief of Morgan State University's student newspaper, *The Spokesman*. Today, the convention has become a four-day event that offers comprehensive break out sessions on editing,

leadership, and writing with top writers, editors, and advisers teaching the sessions. There is also a job fair, sponsored by the American Society of Newspaper Editors, where news organizations such as *The New York Times*, *Associated Press*, *Gannett News Service*, *Knight Ridder*, and *The Birmingham News* look for qualified employees.

"This is a great opportunity for students at HBCUs to come together for something that we all love our school papers," said Josh Barker, the arts and entertainment editor for *The Hornet Tribune* at Alabama State University, the host school for the convention. "It's exciting to meet all these new people."

Next year, the HBCU Newspaper Convention and Job Fair will be hosted by Southern University in Baton Rouge, La.

# NO SCHOOL. NO HOMEWORK. NO EXCUSES.



Robert Earl Keen

Monday, March 15, 7 p.m.



Dierks Bentley



Kelly Clarkson

Tuesday, March 16, 7 p.m.



Nick Lachey



Jessica Simpson

Wednesday, March 17  
7 p.m.



Kenny Chesney

Thursday, March 18, 7 p.m.



Beyoncé

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## SPRING BREAK STAMPEDE

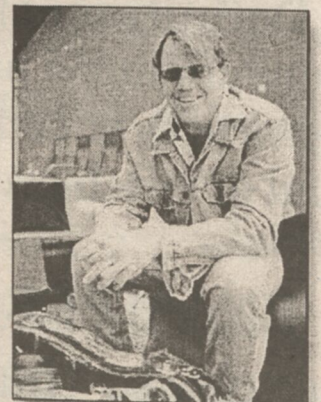
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